

Iseondo koine no Netaba

S H O C H I K U

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NETABA
"ISEONDO KOINE NO YAIBA"

FROM THE SCENE OF FURUICHI ABURAYA TO THE
SCENE OF OKUNIWA

C.C.D. J-2039



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TRUPE.

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From the Scene of Furuichi Aburaya to the
Scene of Okuniwa

Synopsis:

Fukuoka Mitsugi has had a great trouble in searching for the sword, Aoe Shimosaka and its certificate for his young master. It is for this purpose that he often visited the gay quarter, Aburaya. But soon he fell in love with a service woman called Okon. He could easily find out the sword, but the written attestation was in the hand of Iwatsugu, patron of Okon. As a means to take back the document, Okon pretended that she did not love Mitsugi no more, and even the maids insulted the latter calling him an Ise beggar. Quite discouraged, and suspicious of Okon's heart, Mitsugi happened to kill Manno, who tried to save Mitsugi from Okon. But at last he knew Okon's sincerity when she brought to him the written document which she had taken away from her patron.

Scene of Aburaya at Ise Furuichi

Drummer: I'm very tired. Let's take a rest for a while and begin to work.

Drummer B: I'm surprised to see the splendid party.

Maid A: There will be held the dances of Yasuna and Iseondo as Awa, the millionaire, wanted them.

Maid B: I'm afraid we are tarrying here too long.

Maid C: Then let's go at once.

Drummer: Now go with me.

(They go away Manjiro appears and opening the curtain of Aburaya, looks at Okishi)

Okishi: Hullo! Are you Manjiro?

Manjiro: Oh, Okishi!

Okishi: How I longed to see you!

Manjiro: I did want to see you too, but I couldn't as I was an inmate of Mitsugi.

Okishi: You tell a lie. Mitsugi has been looking for you these days, saying you have gone away. Where have you been?

Man: Then, has he been looking for me?

Okishi: I pity him because he worries about you too much.

Manji: Did he think about me so much? It's a pity I didn't tell him the reason of my departure. Listen to me, Okishi. I was dissipated and pawned the precious

written attestation was stolen. I looked for their whereabouts in vain. As I can't dare to see Mitsugi myself, I've come to hear from you some information about him first.

Okishi: I'm glad you came back. As Mitsugi will come back soon, wait for him and go with him.

Chiya: Okishi! Okishi!

Okishi: I don't want Chiyo will come.

Manji: What shall I do?

Okishi: As she will inform Kitaroku about you go to hide yourself behind the back gate of Dairinji, and come back later.

Manji: Then as I'll come back soon, let Mitsugi wait for me when he comes.

Okishi: All right.

Chiya: Okishi, what are you doing here?

Okishi: Well, I was looking at a firefly flying here and there.

Chiya: What: Is the firefly flying? Perhaps as it can't fly in the daytime it might come in the evening to suck the sweetness of a woman. Tonight I must catch it.

Okishi: It has flown away already.

Ochiya: What!

Okishi: It had better fly away and come back later.

Chiya: Yes, it's a lucky firefly.

Maid: Ochiya! Ochiya!

Chiya: Here is Okishi. Now go to the guest, Okishi.

(They exit. Fukuoka Mitsugi appears wearing the

sword of Shimosaka)

Mitsugi: I've been looking for Manjiro every night, but
in vain. I shall go to Aburaya to ask about him.

Okishi: Hullo! Mitsugi!

Mitsugi: You are Okishi.

Okishi: Manjiro has been here.

Mitsugi: Where is he now?

Kishi: As he came here a little time ago, I told him
that you had been looking for him every night.
Then at the ill-natured Chino, finding him, spoke
unpleasant things to him, I asked him to go to the
back gate of Dairinji.

Mitsugi: Then to Dairinji.

Kishi: As I have something to say to him and as he himself
said he had some business with me, he will come back
soon.

Mitsugi: It's not such a trifle matter. He has run away
because he has lost the sword of Shimosaka. I did
find the sword.

Kishi: Is it true?

Mitsugi: This is the sword. I want to give it to Manjiro
as soon as I can. I'll go first to Dairinji.

Kishi: It's awkward if he comes back and sees some one
else during my absence.

Mitsugi: May be. But I'm impatient to see him.

Chiya: Okishi, are you here?

Kishi: What's the matter?

Chiya: The dancing party will soon begin. Iwaji and Kitaroku are looking for you. Oh, ---- you are Mitsugi!

Mitsugi: Is the dancing party held in the back room?

Chiya: As the guests want them, they will dance Iscondo and Yasuna.

Kishi: Then I'll see you later, Mitsugi.

Chiya: Come, come. (Chiya and Kishi out.)

Mitsugi: Above all else, I must see Manjiro first.

Manno: I'm glad you have come here, Mitsugi.

Mitsugi: I've not seen you for a long time.

Manno: Though I knew you came here every night.

I was too busy to see you as I was engaged in entertaining these guests I'm sorry Okon can't see you tonight. .

Mitsugi: Then the guest of Awa

Manno: This is the first day of the play in the theatre and she went to see it with the guests.

Mitsugi: Has she not come back yet?

Manno: Not yet, sir.

Mitsugi: I wish to see Okon once more.

Arrange that I may see her please.

Manno: I do want to help you to see her, because you are my intimate friend, but the warrior of Awa is not a generous man. In any way, I can't arrange the matter for you go back this night.

Mitsugi: Then I won't see Okon, but I must wait here for a certain man. May I go to see the dancing party.

Manno: No, you must not. These quest, are narrow-minded people and they will be angry if some other quests go into their room. Don't drop into the dancing room. I shall be troubled. Even though you should wait for her here, you could not see her. It's very troublesome to explain away the man who can give me no money. Oh, what did I say?

Don't be angry. If you want to stay here, you had better invite some other girl.

Mitsugi: How can I invite some other girl when I love Okon.

Manno: If you can't, go back, please.

Mitsugi: Don't say such an unkind thing.

Manno: I won't treat you as a quest if you don't invite some other girl go back.

Mitsugi: Then I'll do as you want.

Manno: Will you invite some other girl? Then I'll bring you some wine.

Mitsugi: What a selfish woman she is!

Manno: If you stay here, I must take charge of your sword.

Mitsugi: No, I can't hand you this sword.

Manno: It's our custom here to take charge of the swords of the quests. If you can't hand it to me, I can't treat you as a guest. Go back at once.

Mitsugi: But I must stay here.

Manno: Go away, sir!

(Kisuke appears, dressed as a cook.)

Kisuke: I'll take charge of the sword.

Mitsugi: You are the cook, Kisuke.

Kisuke: You came here every night, but I'm sorry I couldn't see you as there were some guests who kept staying here.

Manno: Then you, Kisuke, take charge of the sword.

Kisuke: Now, though you are a follower of Mr. Fujimami now, you were once a famous warrior. So even by chance, you will not hand the sword to a woman. Though I'm a low cook, I, as a man, will take charge of it. Don't be anxious about it.

Mitsugi: This is a precious sword. Be careful about it.

Kisuke: Don't be anxious about it.

Manno: If the cook take charge of it, there is no necessity of the maids. By the way, whom shall I invite for you? I'll go and select some girl.

Mitsugi: I'll go, too.

Kisuke: Wait for a minute, sir.

Mitsugi: Have you anything to speak to me?

Kisuke: It's strange to say this to you now again, that my father served your grandfather before. When he was going to die, he called me by him and said, "Mitsugi, adopted son of Fukuake Magodayu, is the son of my old master. Take care of him and be faithful to me." I am afraid lest you should have some misfortune to by frequenting such a gay quarter. This may become your fault. Excuse me

to advise you. I worry about you very much.

Don't be angry with me.

Mitsugi: You advised me because you didn't ~~g~~ forget the favour of your old master. I am far from being angry with you. Because I know your sincerity, I hand this sword to you. This is indeed the sword Aoi Shimosaka.

Kisuke: Oh, is this.....?

Mitsugi: I could find out this Shimosaka, but the written attestation was stolen. I came here frequently to investigate the sword, not to dissipate myself. So don't worry about me.

Kisuke: Then the man who has stolen document is-----

Mitsugi: I am not certain. I only suspect him.

Kisuke: Then the guest in the back room?

Mitsugi: Speak in a low voice.

Kisuke: Now, young master, drink wine and take some dinner which I made.

Mitsugi: Let's go to take wine.

(They exit. Iwatsugi appears, carrying his sword and that of Mitsugi.)

Iwatsugi: As I heard now, the sword of Mitsugi is Shimosaka
(He draw both swords, and exchanges the interiors)
Fortunately, both of them are of the same size.
Mitsugi will take this blunt one, while Aoi Shimosaka will be left. Good! (He exits.)
(Kisuke is, looking at this scene, comes out again.)

Kisuke: He is a wicked fellow to exchange the swords.
(he is going to exchange them again but begins to think.) Well, it's better to give this sword to Mitsugi assuming that I'm mistaken than to exchange them. The blunt sword will be left. All right.
(Mitsugi, with Okishi, appears.)

Mitsugi: Then, both you and Okon ransomed by the guests, will start for your native country, Awa?

Okishi: Isn't there any way to retain us from going there?

Maid: Okishi! Okishi!

Kishi: What a nuisance! I can't stay here to talk with you. Now I'm going. Think over the matter, please.

Mitsugi: Though^I could find Shimosaka, it's of no value without the certificate. It's the guest, Iwatsugi of Awa that has got it. I can't go away from here.

Oshika: How do you do, Mitsugi? I'm glad to see you.

Mitsugi: How do you do, Oshika?

Oshika: I'm glad you invited me.

Mitsugi: Then Manno called you-----

Oshika: Yes, I was audacious enough to send letters to you who love Okon, but I couldn't forget you and wrote to you the letters to which you answered kindly. Think how I was glad, Mitsugi!

Mitsugi: It's strange to me. I've never received any letters from you, nor have I answered them.

Oshika: What! I was very glad when you wrote me saying "I will see you after I settled the matter between me and Okon" I tried to be loved by you more and more and that is because when you wrote to me I've never given you an ordinarys answer.

Mitsugi: I can't understand you. What are you paying?

Oshika: You can't understand me?

Mitsugi: What?

Oshika: Don't pretend not to understand. It's you that answered my letters.

Mitsugi: I don't know.

Oshika: You are very cruel to say such a thing.

Mitsugi: You say a strange thing.

(Okon appears)

Okon: Mitsugi!

Mitsugi: Oh, Okon!

Okon: You are flirting with a woman.

Mitsugi: Have you been here?

Okon: Of course.

Mitsugi: Why did they tell me falsely that you went out?

Okon: You who came here often, taking advantage of my absence invited another girl at once. How cold you are!

Iwatsugi: I'm not such an absurd man, am I?

Kitaroku: Never! Few men are so honest as you Iwa:

But it's interesting to change the girl's from
time to time isn't it?

Maid: We call such a guest a broom guest.

(All laugh.)

Mitsugi: Now, Okon, it's not I that invited this Oshika.

The other day I asked Manno to help me to see you
but she kept on refusing me. I said I would wait
here for you, but she said I should not stay here
unless I invited some other girl. As I was at a
loss, I yielded to her request and she sent me
such a woman.

Oshika: You speak ill of me in such a way to Okon that I
must tell the truth to all of them.

Mitsugi: What do you want to say?

Oshika: Listen me, all of you. I'm ashamed to say
I loved Mitsugi, and wrote letters to him. If he
didn't love me, why didn't he refuse me? He wrote
to me that he was very happy and he intended to see
me in a short time. It's cowardly to pretend not
to say such a thing.

Mitsugi: You speak as if I had written it.

Okon: You are too unjust to invite Oshika in place of me.

Kitaroku: It's a strange thing. They say, "There is no account-
ing for taste."

Oshika: (To Okon) I've lost my temper. I wish I could eat you up. My face will look comical to you and to all of you. Though I'm ugly, I can keep up my occupation. Moreover if necessary, I can become a decisive woman. Every guest praised me, saying, "Oshika is beautiful as well as Okon" I have never been refused by any guest. Moreover, I gave Mitsugi ~~his~~ his dresses and combs and I supported him as much as I can.

Mitsugi: I can take no notice of your words, but I can't permit you to say that you supported me. Tell me why?

Oshika: It's better to show you the testimony than to explain. I'll show your letter to all of them.

Mitsugi: Let me see it.

Oshika: Yes, I'll show it to you. I myself go to fetch it.

Iwatsugi: I expected a gay banquet, but I was disappointed to hear such a quarrelsome talk. Bring me a pillow

Oshika: I'll read this letter. It reads, "I'm very glad
wrote
you ~~xxxxxx~~ to me I had to spend much money nowadays,
so I'm very glad if you lend me the money of 5 ryo."
In this letter you asked me 5 ryo, but except this
5 ryo, I could not refuse your request whenever
you asked me.

Mitsugi: Let me see this letter. No, I didn't write this letter. It's a forged handwriting. I've never asked her to lend me some money. There must be some one between us.

Oshika: Yes, there is.

Mitsugi: Who is it?

Oshika: It's Manno, the maid.

Mitsugi: Bring her. Manno! Manno!

(Manno appears.)

Mitsugi: Well, Manno! I've never received a letter from Oshika through you, nor have I ever received any money from her. Why did you attempt such a plot?

Oshika: The other day, you said Mitsugi asked me.....

Mitsugi: ~~X~~ Manno! I to Oshika.....

Manno: What's the matter with both of you?

I shall be all wrinkled if you call me at the same time.

Oshika: Now Manno, it's not only once that I asked you to give him some money. At the beginning of last month, you urged me to send him a letter and I wrote him. Soon I received an answer from him and asking to lend him the money of 5 ryo. Then I gave him 2 ryo and then 3 ryo through you. What did you do with the money?

Manno: How careless you are! I handed him all the money I received from you.

Mitsugi: When and where did I receive the money?

Manno: First time, I gave you the money in the separated room over there, and next time at the gate.

Mitsugi: You tell a lie.

Manno: How you feign ignorance you did receive the money I see. You tell a lie pretending not to receive the money because here is Okon.

Mitsugi: You will bring a false charge upon me, who am quite innocent.

Manno: If you were quite blameless, why did you send her such a letter?

Mitsugi: It's not I that wrote the letter.

Manno: I don't know whether you yourself wrote it or you asked someone to write it. If you get angry with me, cut me, or dispose of me as you like.

Mitsugi: It's not manly to get angry with a woman. I'll repay you for this disgrace. Remember it, Manno.

Kitaroku: Did you all hear what he said. I'm a countryman in Awa. I've got lots of money by selling Ayudama. They say the people in Ise are very fond of money. But for the first time I knew that there was a man who got money from a woman by cheating her. It's a strange fashion.

Jiro: Perhaps he may be a so called beggar in Ise.

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Oshika: Pascal! What shall I do with him?

Mitsugi: I'm not such a man to take away money from a woman.

Okon: You are not worthy of such fine words,

Mitsugi: Why?

Okon: Why did you invite Oshika if you neither loved her nor borrowed money from her?



Mitsugi: It was Manno -----

Okon: The fact that you invited Oshika shows.  
That you had some relation with her and asked her  
some money.

Mitsugi: Nonsense!

Okon: Yes, you had. Even I think you did, so the others  
may think in the same way. If you wanted the money  
so much, why didn't you tell me about it? It's  
natural you think a woman like me can't afford the  
money. I thank you for excluding me from the affair.  
Especially, we service women don't like to be left  
behind others. I wish I disappeared from this world  
when I heard you talk to the other women, "I was  
cheated."

Mitsugi: It's natural you felt in this way. It's all through  
Manno. No, I won't say. The more I say, the more  
I seem foolish. I've nothing to say. When I return  
to my native country, I can ransom you and make you  
my wife.

Okon: No, I wouldn't.

Mitsugi: What!

Okon: I don't like a warrior.

Mitsugi: Then why did not tell me so at first?  
Why do you say it now?

Okon: Though I did want to say so, you are a warrior.  
Whenever I become free, I can make you stop  
this occupation and live as an ordinary tradesman.



If I can become a tradesman's wife, my father's will be fulfilled. Therefore, I prefer a tradesman than a warrior.

Mitsugi: Is it true that you don't like to be my wife?

Okon: No, not so. If you become a tradesman, I'm contented to become your wife even though we live in poverty. Will you please become.

Mitsugi: But I can't.

Okon: You can't? Then I won't be your wife. Now, Iwatsugu, isn't it so? Don't fall into sleep.

Mitsugi: If you don't like a warrior, I like a tradesman, neither. I thank you for associating with a warrior whom you don't like. Thank you.

Man: Okon has an important guest. Don't injure her I don't treat as a guest such a rude man as you. Go away at once.

Mitsugi: Yes, I will I can't bear to stay in such a place. Give me my sword.

Man: I don't know.

Mitsugi: I did give it to you.

Man: You gave it to Kisuke, didn't you?

Mitsugi: Call him. Bring my sword, Kisuke.

Kisuke: All right, sir. This is the sword that I received from you.

Okon: Wait for a minute, Mitsugi.

Mitsugi: Have you anything to speak to me.

Okon: Good-by, forever.

Mitsugi: I won't see you again, never.



Man: Now, the dances will begin. Go to the back parlour,  
allof you.

(All exit except Okon, Kitaroku and Iwatsugu)

Iwatsugu: You are brave enough to say things to estrange  
Mitsugi. I've all heard what you said, pretending  
to sleep. As I promised you I'll take you to my  
country and make you my wife.

Okon: How glad I am.

Kitaroku: Since both of you showed your true hearts, it's  
better to show her the bundle.

Iwatsugu: This is the precious written attestation.

Okon : }  
Kitaroku: }- Oh!

Iwa: It's not proper to show it to you here. As I hand  
it to you, you had better show it to her on the second  
floor room.

Manno: I've cheated Mitsugi. It was the sword of Mr.  
Iwatsugu that Mitsugi took away with him, and his  
precious sword, Aoi Shimosaka was left behind.  
How lucky it is that we can get the sword so easily!

Iwa: Then Mitsugi made a mistake and left his sword  
behind?

Kitaroku: It's through Manno that we could get not only  
Shimosaka but the written attestation.

Iwa: Oh, she made a mistake!

All: What!

Iwa: The sword of Mitsugi is of the same size of mine,  
so I exchanged the interiors. The sword Mitsugi  
took away is the real Shimosaka indeed.



Manno: Don't worry about it. I'll tell you what.

Kisuke! Kisuke!

(Kisuke appears)

Manno: Now Kisuke, you are very careless to make a mistake. You gave the sword of Iwatsugu to Mitsugi. Go and fetch it at once.

Kisuke: Oh, excuse me. I'll go and take the sword. ~~X~~

Iwa: Bring the sword and take back his sword.

Kisuke: All right, sir.

(~~X~~ Kisuke exit)

Manno: Oh, what a stupid thing I have done! Kisuke was once a servant of Mitsugi's father. Now, I myself must go to fetch the sword.

Iwa: Go at once, Manno.

(Again the scene of Aburaya.

Mitsugi appears wearing the sword.

He seems to look for Shimosaka here and there.)

Mitsugi: Kisuke! Manno!

Manno: Oh, Mitsugi, give me your sword.

Mitsugi: You are very unkind to give me this spurious one. Give me my sword.

Manno: Kisuke took charge of your sword, not I. This sword is that of our guest. Hand it to me.

Mitsugi: First give me mine.

Manno: I don't know your sword.

Mitsugi: You are impudent enough to pretend ignorance. Hand it to me at once.



(He cuts the back of Manno with the sword.)

Manno: Murder!

(Manno falls down.)

Iwa: Oh, you are Mitsugi!

(The scene changes again to

The parlour of Aburaya where the dancing party is held. Iwatsugu and Kitaroku come here running, whom Mitsugi runs after/a

After fighting, Mitsugi kills Kitaroku and

Jirosuke. With the sword in his hand, Mitsugi, quite out of breath drinks water from the wash-basin. Okon appears.)

Okon: Oh, Mitsugi, is this the written attestation which you were searching?

Mitsugi: Oh, thank you. Indeed this is the document.  
But since I lost my Shimosaka again, I can't live.  
(Kisuke appears.)

Kisuke: Don't be too hasty, master. The sword you have now is really Shimosaka. Look at it carefully.

Mitsugi: Is it true? Bring here the lantern, Kisuke.  
(Mitsugi holds the sword to the light.)

----- THE CURTAIN FALLS -----